



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ALASKA**  
**P.O. BOX 898**  
**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99506-0898**

*Annette*  
*Site File Cop*  
SELECTED REFERENCE  
# 18

October 24, 1996

Environmental Restoration  
Program

Ms. Catharine Benediksson, Supv. *CB*  
Environmental Engineer Section  
Federal Aviation Administration  
222 W. 7th Avenue, #14  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587

Dear Ms. Benediktsson:

Enclosed find the report from our staff on a requested investigation of ordnance or explosives remaining from Department of Defense use, at approximately 127 sites on Annette Island, Alaska. Included with the report is a map of locations inspected. No ordnance or explosives were found at any of the 127 sites.

Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions at 753-5782.

Sincerely,

Bob Chivvis  
Programs Manager  
Environmental Restoration Program  
Programs and Project Management

Enclosure

MFR 8/28/96

Subject: Annette Island Alaska- Investigation of OE Storage Facilities.

1. Colt Denfeld, Mike Davis and Wayne Rowe visited approximately 127 sites on Annette Island on August 27th, 1996 to assess potential for ordnance Explosive (OE) remaining from DOD use during W.W.II. The investigation was made at the request of Mr. Bob Chivis, CENPA-PM-R who was responding to a letter request from Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) dated April 22, 1996 which expressed concern that DOD OE remained in bunkers constructed during WWII. The World War II, OE storage facilities contained aircraft bombs, naval shells, coastal defense gun ammunition, and small arms ammunition.

2. Areas that had WWII ordnance storage were as follows:

- a. Hangar Area ( 36 Structures)
- b. Point Davison Area ( 19 Structures)
- c. Elephant Shelter Area #1 ( 25 Structures)
- d. Elephant Shelter Area #2 ( 31 Structures)
- e. Quarry Camp Area ( 8 Structures)
- f. Six Inch Naval Gun Area ( 8 Structures)

Attachment #1 lists specific structure numbers for each of the above areas. Maps of Annette Island DOD facilities from WWII showing location of the specific structures by number are located in the Alaska Regional National Archives in Anchorage Alaska and the Alaska District Corps of Engineers Map Vault.

No ordnance or evidence of ordnance was found at any of the locations or structures investigated.

3. Summary of Investigation:

a) Hangar Area - Bomb storage facilities called "Elephant Shelters", which consisted of 8' high X 20' long steel arch structures, were located in this area. All of the shelters have been removed. None were found at the original locations. A non-Department of Defense (DoD) Maintenance yard located at the intersection of the current Metlakatla Road and the Quarry Haul Road, currently utilizes six former Elephant Shelters for storage.

b) Point Davison Area - The remains of two Panama Gun mounts are located at the end of Point Davison road. The three storage structures that supported these two guns have collapsed and deteriorated to minor woody debris which is overgrown by vegetation. A Radome concrete base constructed in the 1950's remains at one of the former Panama mounts. Two additional Panama Gun mount positions located approximately 1,000 feet northwest from the point and have been lost to shore erosion. The four storage structures that supported these two coastal defense guns have deteriorated to woody debris overgrown by vegetation.

c) Elephant Shelter Area #1 - This area contained the primary ordnance storage facilities for Annette Island. All of the Elephant shelters have been removed. The 16 Nov 1956 inventory of facilities (Corps of Engineers inventory of DoD facilities transferred from DOD to the US Coast Guard) shows that most of these structures had been removed by 1956. Those that remained in 1956 have since been removed.

d) Elephant Shelter Area #2 - These Shelters were relinquished to Department of the Interior in 1949. None of these Shelters remain at the original locations.

## Hanger Area

Structure No.	Structure	Status
H-24	Elephant Shelters (ES)	Not Present (NP)
H-25	ES	NP
H-28	ES	NP
H-30	ES	NP
H-31	ES	NP
H34 through H-36	ES	NP
H-38	ES	NP
H-40 through H-43	ES	NP
H-43D	ES	NP
H-44	ES	NP
H-45 through H-48	ES	NP
H-50 H-63	ES	NP
H-71	ES	NP
H-80 through H-81	ES	NP
Total 36		

## Point Davison

PD-16 through PD-18	ES	NP
PD-28 through PD-30	ES	NP
PD-64 through PD-76	ES	NP
Total 19		

## Elephant Shelter Area #1

ES-441-72 through ES-141-96	ES	NP
Total 25		

## Elephant Shelter Area #2

ES-141-41 through ES-141-71	ES	NP
Total 31		

## Quarry Camp

T-214	wood frame	NP
215	wood frame	NP
4	ES	NP
2	concrete	1-NP
Total 8	underground	1-present

## Six-Inch Naval Gun

NGE-1	wood frame	NP
NGE-2	wood frame	NP
NGE-6	wood frame	NP
NGE-10 through NGE-11	ES	NP
NGE-12	wood frame	NP
NGE-14 through NGE-15	ES	NP
Total 8		

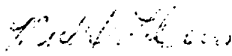
e) Quarry Camp Area - Structures in this area consisted of Elephant Shelters, wooden structures, and two below ground (approx. 10' X 4' X 6) concrete base storage magazines. The Elephant shelters have been removed from the original locations, wooden structures are deteriorated or no longer identifiable (records indicate that some of these structures were utilized for crating during base disposal), one of the concrete magazines is covered by fill and inaccessible, and one of the concrete magazines which had been used in recent years for explosive storage by contractors using a nearby existing quarry has been cleared by Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Metlakalla Natives (non-DoD explosives were discovered in that magazine by FAA in March 1996 and disposed of by BIA July 10, 1996).


f) Six-inch Naval Gun Area - No evidence of Elephant Shelters or wood structures was found in this area. These structures have been removed or deteriorated.

#### 4. Conclusion:

Virtually all of the OE structures have been removed from original locations on Annette Island. No ordnance was identified and no information suggests any ordnance from DoD use remains on Annette Island. TOVEX explosives discovered in March 1996 by FAA in a concrete fuse magazine near a post war quarry were not DoD and were disposed of by BIA in July 1996. The FAA has expressed concern that ordnance was dumped offshore by DoD in the vicinity of the former DoD Supply & Fuel Docks, however, no details or specific information exists to warrant further investigation at this time. This investigation of the OE structures indicates that limited potential exists for ordnance at original storage locations, however, given the significant storage capacity and the amount of ordnance that was once stored on Annette Island, isolated or individual pieces of ordnance could remain from DoD use and could have remained undiscovered for the past 50 Years. Metlakatla officials and Government operations on the island should be cognizant of past history in the event that human activities identify ordnance.

  
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NPA-EN-EE-II

  
Mike Davis  
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CF: CENPA-PM-E-F  
Chivvis